

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5933

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: PRESSURE OF LAW AND ORDER ISSUE

REF: GENOA 0181

MESSAGE IS RETRANSMITTED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJ: PRESSURE OF LAW AND ORDER ISSUE

THE FOLLOWING FROM DI SCIULLO IS TRANSMITTED AS POSSIBLE INTEREST
TO DEPARTMENT

1. THERE IS A DANGER THAT THE EMOTIONAL RUCKUS OVER THE KID-
NAPPING OF THE SON OF SOCIALIST LEADER DE MARTINO WILL PUSH
ITALY INTO THE PORT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL/POLITICAL CLIMATE THAT
SOME OF US ITALIANISTS HAVE ALWAYS FEARED COULD LEAD TO A
WORST-CASE SCENARIO FOR EARLY PCI ENTRY INTO THE GOVERNMENT,
I.E., A SITUATION IN WHICH SUCH ENTRY WOULD BE RATIONALIZED
AND ACCEPTED ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT IS VITAL FOR THE DEFENSE AND
SALVATION OF THE "DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS" AGAINST THE REAL,
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IMAGINED, OR CONCOCTED THREATS OF EXTREMIST GROUPS OF THE RIGHT
OR LEFT, OR, MORE RECENTLY, OF BOTH. IN SHORT, WE MAY BE FACED
WITH AN UPDATED REPEAT OF THE TAMBRONI AFFAIR OF 1960 WHEN THE
ANTI-FASCIST REVOLT IN GENOA FORCED THE FALL OF THE TAMBRONI
CABINET AND BROUGHT ON THE FAMOUS GOVERNMENT OF THE "PARALLEL
CONVERGENCES", A EUPHEMISM FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE NENNI

SOCIALISTS INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY.

2. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE COMMUNISTS AND THE SOCIALISTS WILL TRY TO MAKE OF YOUNG DE MARTINO'S SNATCH THE CATALYST FOR PCI ENTRY INTO THE GOVERNMENT MAJORITY JUST AS TAMBRONI WAS UTILIZED FOR A SIMILAR OPERATION WITH THE SOCIALISTS. IT ONLY REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WILL GO ALONG NOW AS THEY DID IN 1960. MORO'S AMBIGUOUS ALLUSIONS THE OTHER DAY IN NAPLES AT THE POSSIBILITY OF "CONVERGENCES" OF ALL POLITICAL FORCES (INCLUDING, THEREFORE THE PCI) ON "ESSENTIAL THINGS" MAY BE CONSTRUED (AND HAVE SO BEEN CONSTRUED BY SOME) AS A FIRST SIGNAL OF DC READINESS TO ACCEPT THE LEFT'S DEMANDS FOR AN EMERGENCY PROGRAMMATIC ACCORD WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE PCI. THE WORDS AND DEEDS OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS MAY TELL US WHETHER OR NOT ITALY'S LONG-TIME DOMANIANI FORCE HAS FINALLY REACHED FOR THE PANIC BUTTON.

3. COMMENTS: THE RISKS AND DANGERS ALWAYS INHERENT IN THE PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMUNISTS IN THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WOULD CERTAINLY BE MAGNIFIED IF THE PCI RODE TO POWER ON AN EMOTIONAL WAVE WITHOUT EVEN THOSE MINIMAL INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CONSTRAINTS THAT MIGHT OBTAIN I, A NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. MACHIAVELLI USED TO SAY THAT MEN NEVER SHAPE UP UNLESS FORCED TO IT BY NECESSITY AND HE USED TO ADD IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SUBJECT OF WONDER TO ME AS TO WHY THE COMMUNISTS HAVE NEVER TRIED TO "CREATE" THE CONDITIONS THAT MIGHT FORCE THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO ACCEPT THEM INTO A GOVERNMENT FOR THE "PRESERVATION OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS." TAILOR-MADE NECESSITY.QUOTE- SCIULLO
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UNQUOTE - GARDNER

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